

short wingbar. It gave the distinctive *churp* call familiar from experience with the March bird. It was flushed three more times from low marshy vegetation, but could not be seen on the ground. Each time it called and towered, then flew around high and rather erratically for a minute or two before landing. It did not associate at all with the other waders in the area. Although head details and leg colour were not seen I have no doubt that this was also a Long-toed Stint. At the time concerned, the March site some 10 km away was flooded and devoid of waders. This later sighting could easily therefore have involved the original bird.

## REFERENCES

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- EANHS OS-C 1977. Some recent records of Palaearctic Birds in Kenya and Tanzania. *Scopus* 1: 39-43.

*D.J. Pearson, Department of Biochemistry, P.O. Box 30197, Nairobi.*

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RED-NECKED PHALAROPES *PHALAROPUS LOBATUS* OFF THE COAST  
OF SOMALIA AND KENYA

This communication reports sightings of Red-necked Phalaropes made by my friend Nautical Officer F. Scharffetter during voyages along the Somali and Kenyan coasts in 1983 and 1985. Mr Scharffetter was a member of the crew during these voyages and is an experienced bird-watcher. His observations of phalaropes are listed below: the first number given refers to the location of the sighting(s) as shown on the map (Fig. 1); the numbers after the date are the numbers of phalaropes.

Southbound

1. 5 Nov 1983: 4 + 3 + 2 + 1
2. 6 Nov 1983: 06:00: 5 + 2 + 10 + 6 + 12 + 10
3. 6 Nov 1983: 08:00: few hundred on current edge
4. 6 Nov 1983: 16:00: 10
5. 6 Nov 1983: 17:00: 30
6. 8 Nov 1983: 4 + 3 + 16
7. 9 Nov 1983: 25 + 2 + 2 + 2 (water depth 140 m)
8. 10 Nov 1983: 4 (depth 80 m)
9. 10 Nov 1983: 35

Northbound

10. 15 Nov 1983: 12 + 1 (depth 1100 m)
11. 16 Nov 1983: 10
12. 16 Nov 1983: 9
13. 16 Nov 1983: 11:00: 1 (depth 180 m)
14. 16 Nov 1983: 16:00: 3000-5000
15. 17 Nov 1983: 16:00-17:00: about 3000 mostly in flocks of up to 300.

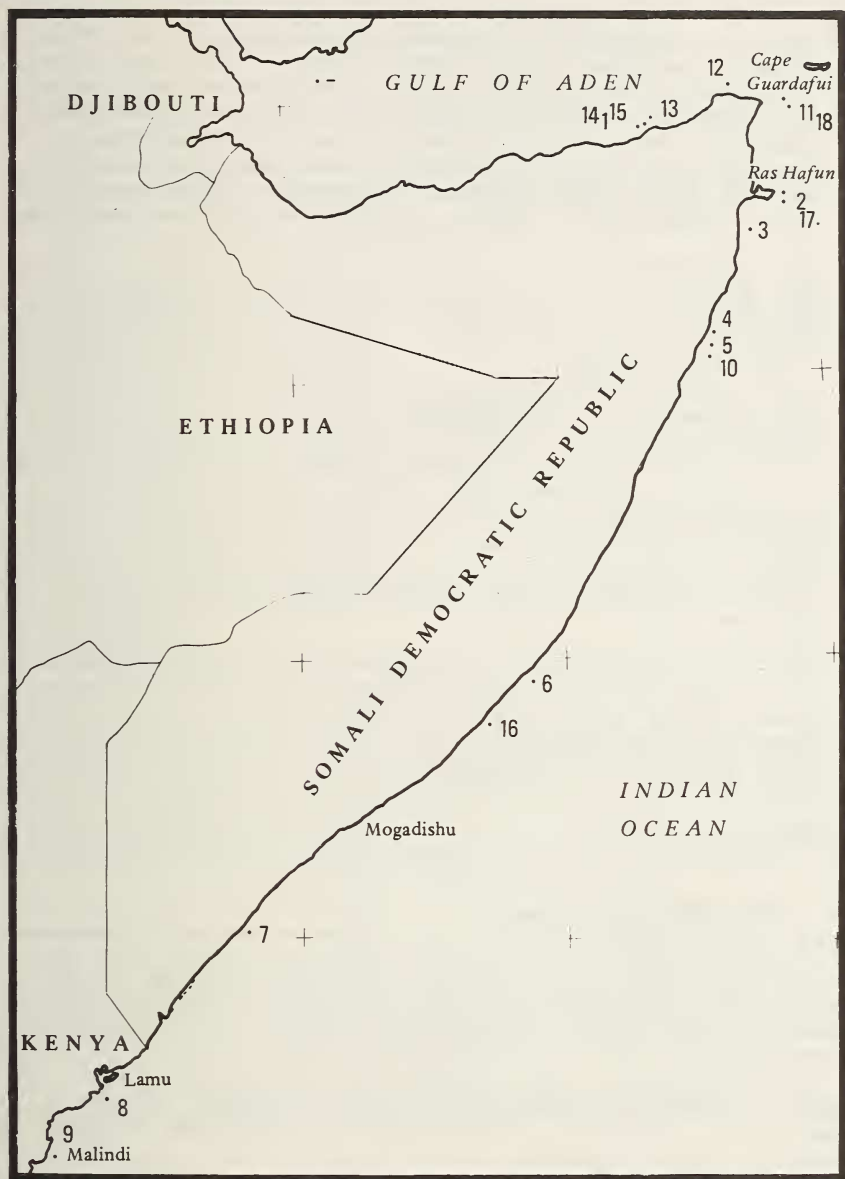


Fig. 1. Map showing sites of sightings of Red-necked Phalaropes

## Southbound

16. This is a seismically active area, 48 km NE/SW by 15 km NW/SE, which was surveyed between 4 and 29 January 1985. Bird observations were helped by the vessel's slow speed of only 5 knots (c. 9 km/h) but hampered by very rough weather with continuous winds of force 5-6 (c. 30-50 km/h). The phalaropes often appeared to be flying from south to north, and this direction was also noted during the night observations with the aid of the ship's searchlights. Numbers of phalaropes seen were as follows:

4th, 5th, 6th: 0

7th: 2

8th, 9th: 0

10th: 1

11th: 3

12th: 1 + 6 + 8 + 4

14th, 15th: (0 - at Mogadishu)

16th: 11 + 7 + 5

17th: 25 + 14 + 7 + 8 + 5 + 20; at night: 5 + 3 + 6 + 4 + 5 + 3 + 1

18th, 3 + 13 + 6 + 5 + 4 + 1

19th: at night: 6 + 5 + 1

20th: 1

21st: 3; at night: 1 + 7 + 11 + 8 + 12 + 6 + 3

22nd: at night: 1 + 1 + 2 + 9 + 5 + 6 + 2 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 2

23rd: 0

24th: 1 + 12; at night: 3 + 8 + 20 + 9 + 12 + 7 + 2 + 6 + 1 + 5 + 18 + 8 + 11 + 7 + 6 + 11 + 3

25th: 16 + 2; at night: 3 + 2 + 6 + 3 + 3 + 2

26th: 1 + 3; at night: 12

27th, 28th: (0 - in Mogadishu)

29th: 8 + 1 + 1.

## Northbound

17. 2 Feb 1985: 13 + 4 + 7 + 6 + 21 + 2 + 34 + 14 + 7 + 25 + 14 + 7 + 6 + 3 + 9 + 16 + 8 + 6 + 3 + 6 + 7 + 8

18. 2 Feb 1985: some flocks.

During 3 and 4 February in the Gulf of Aden no phalaropes were seen.

Most phalaropes were seen near the coast or at the edge of the coastal shelf and the deep sea where the water is turbulent (caused by the meeting of the East African Coast Current and the Equatorial Current).

*Heinrich Schiemann, D 7988 Wangen im Algäu, Kirchstr. 15, West Germany*

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